CLAIMS

1. A bobbin (1) of plastic, which has a cylinder (2) and, formed integrally therewith, circumferential end flanges (3) and is made of a U-shaped channel (9), c h a r a c t e r i s e d in that the U-shaped channel (9) is made by injection moulding in one piece, and that each end flange (3) consists of a plurality of spaced-apart, essentially radial flange elements (4) which are distributed along the circumference of the cylinder (2).

2. A bobbin as claimed in claim 1, in which the flange elements (4) over the entire radial extent have an essentially constant extension in the circumferential direction, the flange elements (4) of each end flange (3) having a total extension in the circumferential direction which is essentially equal to the circumference of the cylinder (2).

3. A bobbin as claimed in claim 1 or 2, in which a plurality of axial grooves (5) are formed in the outer circumferential surface of the cylinder (2), each groove (5) extending the entire length of the cylinder (2) between a point between two adjoining flange elements (4) of one end flange (3) and a point between two adjoining flange elements (4) of the other end flange (3).

4. A bobbin as claimed in claim 1 or 2, in which a plurality of axial grooves are formed in the inner circumferential surface of the cylinder (2), each groove extending the entire length of the cylinder (2) between a point between two adjoining flange elements (4) of one end flange (3) and a point between two adjoining flange elements (4) of the other end flange (3).

5. A bobbin as claimed in claims 3 and 4, in which the grooves in the inner circumferential surface of the cylinder (2) are located opposite to the grooves (5) in the outer circumferential surface thereof and are wedge-shaped in cross-section.

6. A bobbin as claimed in any one of claims 1-3, in which each flange element (4) at its radially inner end has a lug (6) which extends past the inner circumferential surface of the cylinder (2) and has a circumferential extent that decreases radially inwards.

7. A bobbin as claimed in any one of claims 1-6, in which at least one flange element (4) of one end flange (3) at its radially outer end has an articulated projection (7) which at its free end is hookable onto the other end flange (3).

8. A method of manufacturing a bobbin of plastic, which has a cylinder (2) and, formed integrally therewith, circumferential end flanges (3), in which method a U-shaped channel (9) is made in one piece and bent to form said cylinder (2) with end flanges (3), the ends (13) of the channel being connected with each other in this bent position, c h a r a c t e r i s e d in that the U-shaped channel (9) is made by injection moulding and given such a shape that its side walls (11) consist of a plurality of spaced-apart wall elements (12) which are distributed along the length of the channel (9).

9. A method as claimed in claim 8, in which the channel ends (13) are connected with each other by protrusions (15), which are formed on a projection (17) of the base (10) of the channel, which projection projects at one channel end in the longitudinal direction of the channel (9), being inserted into holes (16) which are formed in the base of the channel at the other channel end.

10. A method as claimed in claim 8 or 9, in which the base (10) of the channel during injection moulding is given transverse inner grooves which extend the entire width of the base between a point between two adjoining wall elements (12) of one channel wall (11) and a point between two adjoining wall elements (12) of the other channel wall (11).

11. A method as claimed in any one of claims 8-10, in which each wall element (12) during injection moulding is at its end connected with the base (10) provided with a lug (6) which extends past the base (10) and has an extent decreasing in the longitudinal direction of the channel (9), away from the wall element (12), and the channel is bent until each lug is brought into abutment against a neighbouring lug.

12. A method as claimed in any one of claims 8-10, in which the base (10) of the channel during injection moulding is given transverse outer grooves which extend the entire width of the base between a point between two adjoining wall elements (12) of one channel wall (11) and a point between two adjoining wall elements (12) of the other channel wall (11).